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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inv.: Nguyen, T et al.  
TBD

Examiner:

Ser. No.: TBD, US Nat. Stage of PCT/IB2004/050457 Date:  
10/17/05

Title: Aluminium-wettable carbon-based body

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the international application as follows:

In the claims

In claim 1, line 1, between "body" and "having", please insert --producible by the method of claim 16,--; and line 8, after "aluminium", please insert, --,wherein said carbon-rich mixture is made of an impregnation of the metal-based particles in the outer part of the carbon body--.

Please cancel claims 3-4;

In claim 5, please delete "4" and insert therefor --1--;

Please cancel claims 6-7;

In claim 8, please delete "any preceeding" and insert after "claim", --1--;

In claim 10, please delete "or 9";

In claim 11, please delete "any preceeding" and insert after "claim", --1--;

In claim 12, please delete "any preceeding" and insert after "claim", --1--;

In claim 13, please delete "any preceeding" and insert after "claim", --1--;

In claim 14, please delete "any preceeding" and insert after "claim", --1--;

In claim 24, please delete "any one of claims 14 to 23" and insert therefor --claim 15--;

In claim 26, please delete "or 25";